

Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 22, 2018, 6:00 pm
Town Hall Meeting Room

- 1) **Call to order:** First Selectman Chris Spaulding called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Also present were Selectmen Brian Gordon, Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz and members of the public.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** – led by Attorney Steve Nevas
- 3) **Moment of Silence** and First Selectman’s statement regarding Florida tragedy
- 4) **Discussion/decision to appoint Rone Baldwin to the Insurance Advisory Committee for a term ending June 30, 2018** Mr. Gordon moved to appoint Rone Baldwin to the Insurance Advisory Committee for a term ending June 30, 2018. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 5) **Discussion/decision to appoint Kathy Failla as an Alternate on the Historic District Commission for a term to end December 31, 2022** Mr. Grozinger moved to appoint Kathy Failla as an Alternate on the Historic District Commission for a term to end December 31, 2022. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 6) **Discussion/decision to accept of Carolyn Pianin’s resignation from the Weston Building Committee.** Mr. Gordon moved to accept of Carolyn Pianin’s resignation from the Weston Building Committee. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7) **Discussion/decision by the Board of Selectmen in response to a petition received this week to call a Special Town Meeting to determine the question of whether or not a dog park should be established on a Town owned 36 acre parcel on Davis Hill Road as depicted in a visualization map and in accordance with a draft MOU between the Town and Weston Dog Park Inc., both of which are available on the Town Website and in the Town Clerk’s Office.**
Mr. Grozinger recused himself from further dog park discussions due to his relationship with Aspetuck Land Trust. Mr. Grozinger left the meeting.
Mr. Spaulding explained that he received the petition on Tuesday and spoke about the process. He stated the next step is for the Board of Selectmen to call a Town Meeting or a Public Hearing. Posting requirements were discussed.
- 8) **Discussion/decision to establish a Special Town Meeting in response to a petition received this week to call a Special Town Meeting to determine the question of whether or not a dog park should be established on a Town owned 36 acre parcel on Davis Hill Road as depicted in a**

visualization map and in accordance with a draft MOU between the Town and Weston Dog Park Inc., both of which are available on the Town Website and in the Town Clerk's Office. Mr. Spaulding explained that calling for a Special Town Meeting would technically be triggered by the petition, but the BOS has the power to also call for a public hearing and a referendum which would logistically be more ideal.

Mr. Gordon moved to establish a Special Town Meeting on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 10am at the Weston Intermediate School Café and Library, 95 School Road, to determine the following question: "Shall the Town of Weston establish an enclosed, approximately 3 and ½ acre dog park on the Town owned 36 acre parcel on Davis Hill Road as depicted in a visualization map and in accordance with a draft MOU between the Town and Weston Dog Park, Inc., both of which are available on the Town website and in the Town Clerk's office?" Mr. Spaulding seconded. Both Mr. Spaulding and Mr. Gordon opposed. Motion did not pass.

- 9) **Discussion/decision to establish a referendum in response to a petition received this week to call a Special Town Meeting to determine the question of whether or not a dog park should be established on a Town owned 36 acre parcel on Davis Hill Road as depicted in a visualization map and in accordance with a draft MOU between the Town and Weston Dog Park Inc., both of which are available on the Town Website and in the Town Clerk's Office.** Mr. Gordon moved to establish a Referendum vote on Saturday, March 10, 2018 from Noon to 8pm at the Weston Town Hall Meeting Room, 56 Norfield Road, to determine the following question: "Shall the Town of Weston establish an enclosed, approximately 3 and ½ acre dog park on the Town owned 36 acre parcel on Davis Hill Road as depicted in a visualization map and in accordance with a draft MOU between the Town and Weston Dog Park, Inc., both of which are available on the Town website and in the Town Clerk's office?" Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 10) **Discussion/decision to establish a public hearing in response to a petition received this week to call a Special Town Meeting to determine the question of whether or not a dog park should be established on a Town owned 36 acre parcel on Davis Hill Road as depicted in a visualization map and in accordance with a draft MOU between the Town and Weston Dog Park Inc., both of which are available on the Town Website and in the Town Clerk's Office.** Mr. Gordon moved to establish a Public Hearing on Friday, March 9, 2018 from 7pm to 10pm at the Weston High School Cafeteria, 115 School Road, to accept public comment on the proposal to establish an enclosed, approximately 3 and ½ acre dog park on the Town Owned 36 acre parcel on Davis Hill Road as depicted in a visualization map and in accordance with a draft MOU between the Town and Weston Dog Park, Inc., both of which are available on the Town website and in the Town Clerks Office. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grozinger re-entered the meeting

11) **Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation for I.T. equipment** – this item tabled till next meeting.

12) **Discussion/decision about holding a tax sale** – tabling till next meeting

13) **Discussion/decision to authorize the First Selectman to hire seasonal employees** – Mr.

Spaulding explained this is something discussed earlier and as defined by charter. Mr. Luiz stated that at the seasonal level, Commissions such as Parks and Rec and Library would like to give Chris the authority to hire these employees. He explained the Selectmen could then give an update on who is hired at monthly meetings. Mr. Grozinger moved to authorize the First Selectman to hire and dismiss all seasonal Town employees in accordance with Section 5.1 (c) of the Town Charter. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

14) **Approval of Property Tax Refunds** Mr. Luiz reminded the Selectmen that the high amount is due to double mortgage payments. Mr. Gordon moved to approve the property tax refunds as presented totaling \$70,844. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

15) **Approval of Minutes** Mr. Grozinger moved to approve Board of Selectmen meeting minutes for February 1, 2018; February 6, 2018; and February 12, 2018. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

16) **Adjournment:** Mr. Gordon moved to adjourn at 6:41pm. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Randi Derene, Administrative Assistant.

Minutes Approved – March 15, 2018